

Mr. Paul A. Marshall
California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street-2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

FEB 09 2008 00178

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Hello, my name is Jeffrey Becker and I'm an 8th grader at St. Edward School in Newark, CA. I was assigned to write a Social Action Letter about something I am concerned with in our environment.

As I understand there is a large amount of water being pumped out of the delta's estuary system. I was very irate when I found out that California Department of Water Resources was planning to pump as much as 27% more water out of the delta.

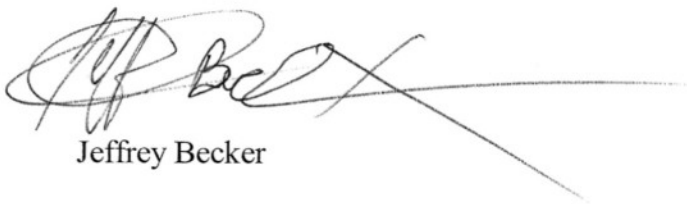
This didn't make sense to me because we already new that its ecosystem was collapsing and we where still planning on pumping out millions of gallons of water each year from the delta.

The Bay-Delta is the largest estuary in the western United States. About 40 to 60 percent of the Delta's fresh water is already diverted by state and federal agencies and exported south to supply San Joaquin Valley and Southern California. In the past 4 years, four species of the Delta fish have severely declined, along with the complex food web that sustains them.

Even more alarming is that California is not even in a water crisis. In fact, according to the California Water Plan Update, California will meet its water needs now and even well into the future. Also the plan shows that the water demand in California will decrease over the next 30 years if there where large investments made in getting people to use water more efficiently.

In conclusion I would like to say that if the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation renews its federal water contract that it will only encourage more pumping from the Delta. If the pumping continues our water quality will decrease, there will be a loss of habitat for fish and native fish will decline a large amount.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Becker

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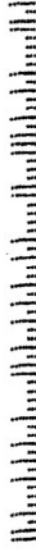
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